More information is available on the Web at **http://www.ocio.usda.gov/irm/e_arch/index.html** or by contacting:
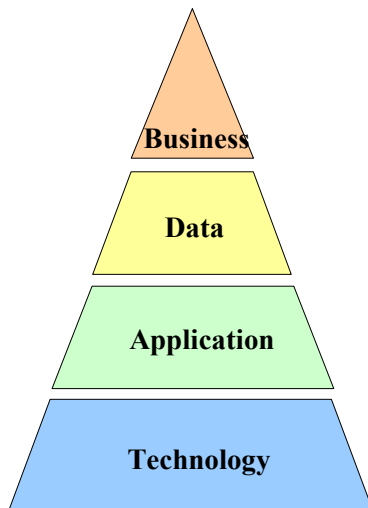
- Marilyn Holland at 202-720-6275 or marilyn.holland@usda.gov
- John P. Rehberger at 202-720-5223 or john.rehberger@usda.gov

When fully implemented, the EAMS server is expected to be on the USDA Intranet at **http://eams.usda.gov:8080/**. Check the OCIO Web page above for implementation updates.

The Enterprise Architecture Management System (EAMS)

Overview

EAMS is the unified data repository for USDA's enterprise architecture (EA). It is a Web-based tool used to track and analyze the layers (Enterprise Elements, Business, Data, Applications, and Technology) of USDA's enterprise architecture and the relationships between these layers. It serves as a repository for the information necessary to define the Department's baseline architecture and enables the definition and design of a target architecture.

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      /\
     /  \
    /Business\
   /----------\
  /    Data    \
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/  Application   \
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|   Technology   |
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Features and Benefits

EAMS is a non-proprietary, "open source" tool that is very flexible and changeable and runs on commodity hardware and software. When fully implemented, it will be a centrally maintained database accessible using a Web browser across the USDA Intranet.

It allows users to:

- create, define, edit, and delete architectural entities (e.g., business functions, applications, data classes, etc.);
- view these entities with their details and interrelationships;
- create, edit, and delete relationships between entities;
- add attachments to entities where permitted; and
- produce multi-layered reports and dynamically generated graphics to aid in the analysis of EA information.

EAMS supports the development of a target architecture via:

- multiple planning periods (i.e., baseline, transition phase(s), and target),
- user-defined tracking of changes between planning periods; and
- the creation new planning periods.

A Cooperative Approach to EA

EAMS supports the Department's ongoing "cooperative approach" to enterprise architecture. Using this approach, agency architectures are directed towards mission-specific processes, systems, data and applications. The Departmental component is directed at:

- infrastructure investments (e.g. security and telecommunications),
- cross-cutting investments (e.g. corporate systems) and
- areas where there are significant economies of scale from a Departmental approach.

EAMS will serve as the common EA data repository during the implementation of this approach. It will be used to look for opportunities for cooperation across the agencies, better coordinate out-year activities, and better manage IT assets at all levels with USDA.

Activities and Plans

OCIO has created a demonstration prototype of EAMS and has been reviewing and testing it for 3 months. OCIO is in the process of:

- setting up a production EAMS server,
- collecting agency comments, and
- contracting for an IV&V of EAMS.

OCIO also anticipates, among other things:

- improving EAMS based on the IV&V,
- creating an EAMS user group, and
- developing and conducting EAMS training.